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02-1304 2661

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In application of

Docket No: Q64315

Hiroshi DEMPO

Appln. No.: 09/842,646

Group Art Unit: 2661

Confirmation No.: 7652

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: April 27, 2001

For: FRAGMENTATION PROCESSING DEVICE AND FRAGMENTATION
PROCESSING APPARATUS USING THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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FEB 11 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-69071, published March 3, 2000.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 10-190734, published July 21, 1998.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-101613, published April 7, 2000.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated November 11, 2003, and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof, which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

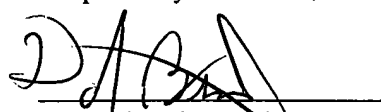
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